



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

www.usdoj.gov/usao/txw/index.html

Shana Jones, Special Assistant

Daryl Fields, Public Information Officer

(210) 384-7440

September 11, 2003

EL PASO MAN CHARGED WITH FEDERAL FIREARMS OFFENSES

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that a federal grand jury has indicted 66-year-old Richard William Stefanick of El Paso, Texas, for dealing in firearms without a license and selling firearms to a convicted felon.

The indictment alleges that from November 1, 2001, through November 18, 2001, the defendant willfully engaged in the selling of firearms without a license. The indictment also alleges that on three occasions—April 7, 2001, June 1, 2001 and June 21, 2001—Stefanick knowingly sold firearms to a convicted felon. The firearms sold included a Smith and Wesson .357 caliber revolver, Taurus .44 caliber magnum revolver and a U.S. Carbine M-1 30 caliber rifle.

If convicted of the charges, Stefanick faces up to 35 years in federal prison. This case is being investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Assistant United States Attorney Donna Miller is prosecuting the case for the government.

An indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence of guilt. Defendants are presumed innocent unless and until convicted through due process of law.

#####